

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 716

By Hall

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend K9 Joker for his service.

WHEREAS, we are pleased to recognize those dedicated canine officers whose ability in the field undoubtedly enhances the safety and security of those in this State; and

WHEREAS, one such officer is the Bradley County Police K9 Joker of the Cleveland Police Department, partner and friend to Deputy Eduardo Choate; and

WHEREAS, K9 Joker was shot multiple times while attempting to apprehend suspects in thick woods after responding to an auto burglary at an apartment complex; his extensive injuries included the dislocation of his jaw from a straight shot to his face; and

WHEREAS, after nine days of intensive care at the Animal Emergency and Specialty Center in Chattanooga, K9 Joker was released from the hospital with a prescription for twelve weeks of rest, a muzzle, and a feeding tube; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2021, K9 Joker returned to his post; his first act back on the job was tracking down three suspects in the same woods in which he was shot; and

WHEREAS, K9 Joker is a beloved member of Bradley County who is strong and willing to serve and protect the constituents of the county with honor and pride; he and each police service animal are remarkable assets to the communities they serve and especially to the law enforcement officers they protect, and it is fitting that we honor him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor K9 Officer Joker for his laudable service to the Cleveland Police Department, Bradley County, and the people of this great State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.